The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has elected two geographers as members and a third as a foreign associate in recognition of their distinguished achievements in original scholarship. Ellen Mosley-Thompson, Anthony Bebbington, and Eric Lambin were among the 72 new members and 18 foreign associates elected in voting that took place at the NAS Annual Meeting on April 28, 2009.

Ellen Mosley-Thompson is Professor of Geography in the Department of Geography, Ohio State University, and Senior Research Scientist at the Byrd Polar Research Center, Ohio State University. She uses ice cores collected from polar ice sheets and high mountain glaciers to reconstruct the Earth’s complex climate history, building high-resolution annual records of net mass accumulation, atmospheric dustiness and chemistry, and temperature as inferred from stable isotopic ratios. Recent publications include “Spatial variation of the influence of the North Atlantic Oscillation on precipitation across Greenland” (2008, with Calder, C.A., and Craigmile, P.F.) in the Journal of Geophysical Research (Atmospheres), and “A 1000 year….”

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National Geographic Bee Crowns 2009 Champion

Thirteen year-old 7th grader Eric Yang of Griffin Middle School near Dallas, Texas, won the 2009 National Geographic Bee without missing a single question during the final round of competition, held May 20, 2009, at the headquarters of the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. Yang’s bravura performance was perhaps to be expected: he has already taken the SAT college entrance exams, on which he scored a 2200 (of 2400 possible points).

The National Geographic Bee, now in its 21st year, is a nationwide contest for schools with any of the grades four through eight. Fifty-five students representing the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, the Pacific territories, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Department of Defense Dependents Schools traveled to Washington, D.C. to compete May 19-20. Ten emerged from the first day of competition to compete in the final round, which was moderated by Alex Trebek of the popular television game show Jeopardy! Contestants ranged from ages 9-15 and emerged from a field of approximately 5 million students.

Early in the final round, during a break in the competition, Trebek slowly crisscrossed the stage, making small talk with each contestant for the audience and the TV cameras. As he did, the 10 students, all boys, revealed their interests and hobbies, which ranged from building model airplanes to the history of World War II battles to collecting postcards to sports. But while the breadth of those interests seemed unsurprising for a group of teenage boys, the depth of their accomplishment often was: Zaroug Jaleel, an eighth grader from Lexington, Massachusetts, has already won several state chess championships, and just a few weeks earlier had….

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Spatial Histories, Temporal Geographies

The AAG continues to build on the successes of our five-year Geography and Humanities Initiative (see Richardson, “Geography and the Humanities,” AAG Newsletter, March 2006, for details), which was begun in 2004. Significant outcomes to date include the initiation of an AAG Geography and the Humanities Symposium, co-hosted by the University of Virginia in 2007 in Charlottesville, and the opening of a new generation of sustained engagement and dialogue between geography and several humanities disciplines. Two new books inspired by ideas and relationships generated during the conceptualization and implementation phases of the Geography and the Humanities Symposium are also scheduled for publication early next year.

I am pleased to report here on an important new outcome of our continued exploration of interactions between geography and the humanities, the award to the AAG of a Chairman’s Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to create the Historical Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Clearinghouse and Forum.

As most geographers know well, GIScience and technology is helping to transform many fields of study, including the discipline of history. Geography and GIS allow historians and related scholars to ask new questions from new perspectives, and to integrate and analyze large amounts of historical data that previously remained impervious to traditional historical methods alone. As Civil War historian Ed Ayers demonstrated in his Symposium address, which examined the location and frequency of lynchings in the American South over time, the use of geographic technologies such as GIS can have a profound effect on historical research, and create radically new understandings and interpretations of our past.

A number of prominent scholars at the forefront of the digital geographic history field were present at the Geography and Humanities Symposium. These included featured speaker and Symposium co-sponsor Ed Ayers (President, University of Richmond), Peter Bol (Professor of East Asian Civilizations and Director, Harvard Center for Geographic Analysis), Ian Johnson (Director, Archaeological Computing Laboratory, University of Sydney), Ian Gregory (Senior Lecturer in Digital Humanities, Lancaster University), Karen Kemp (University of Reading), and Amy Hillier (University of Pennsylvania). Discussions at the Symposium underscored the pressing need for an interactive online resource available to historical researchers who use geographic technologies to address the significant challenges involved in creating GIS-based historical archives and conducting historical research using GIS.

Often coupled with traditional methods of historical and geographical analysis, the use of GIS technology for historical research is growing rapidly, and the number of major international historical GIS projects continues to expand. Examples of such projects include the China Historical GIS, the Great Britain Historical GIS, the Tibetan and Himalayan Digital Libraries, the Hawai’i Island Digital Collaboratory for Humanities and Science, the U.S. National Historical Geographic Information System, the Holocaust Historical GIS Project, and many others.

Although the field continues to grow, scholars still face many core theoretical and conceptual challenges. For example, Peter Bol delivered a paper at the Geography and Humanities Symposium, “What Humanists Want; What Humanists Need” outlining the need for coordination of geographic data on place names over time and the alignment of those names with geographic coordinates across systems of measurement. This is exactly the kind of need the Historical Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Clearinghouse and Forum will be designed to address, by providing updates of cutting-edge projects and promoting ongoing discussion about various Historical GIS (HGIs) challenges and their solutions. In addition, many incipient HGIS research projects have often remained

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Common Sense versus Good Sense

For many years I would begin a graduate course on research design with a discussion of fudging, finagling, and fraud, using as illustrations some famous cases such as that of the infamous educational psychologist Cyril Burt who cooked his data on social class and intelligence to make his results come out the way he wanted them to, or the anthropologist Margaret Mead’s questionable use of leading questions to informants during her fieldwork in Samoa; or a host of hoaxes from the Piltdown Man to Captain Samuel Adams’s faked run down the Colorado River (see the tremendous book Great Exploration Hoaxes, by David Roberts, Sierra Club Books, 1982).

The students invariably thought I had lost my mind. Why would you start a course by resurrecting such notorious and presumably atypical cases? Surely, “common sense” would tell you to start with what would constitute “good” research practice and go on from there? I had a simple reason. My point was very much the one that Roberts makes so brilliantly in his book: “Everyone can identify with the hoaxer, because each of us has had the experience of seeing a trivial lie magnify into a nightmare of deception” (my emphasis). In other words, the cases may be extreme but each in its own way is a warning about what happens in research (and in life) when rules of conduct are unknown or loosely engaged, data cannot be replicated and/or are not made available to others and thus rest entirely upon the presumed personal integrity of their collector; and, most of all, when a minor bit of fudging turns into a massive fraud or exploitation of the people or place being investigated.

Much of what goes for common sense in contemporary research seems to have come home to roost in some recent well publicized cases. This includes believing researchers rather than questioning them, imposing ourselves on others to “help them” without first gaining their agreement and trust, preferring “human interest” stories to establishing more robust patterns across meaningful populations, engaging in research with marginalized and exploited groups who have little choice but to humor us, and ignoring plausible alternative hypotheses when they go against the grain of what we already believe. Now all of the “facts” are not known in these cases. Indeed, they may never be known in their entirety. Undoubtedly, something of a “Rashomon effect” is at work when all parties involved read about or recall what happened. But these cases are instructive nonetheless, insofar as openly debating them may help prevent similar problems in the future.

One case in point is the controversy that has erupted over research with indigenous communities in Mexico and elsewhere designed to integrate local indigenous land claims with remotely sensed information. Some local groups have objected to the research on the ground that it is “sponsored” by the U.S. military, thereby plausibly suggesting that it has anything but the welfare of the local communities at heart. Another is the claim that a high profile story in The New Yorker about New Guinea inter-clan violence misrepresented the life stories of the individuals on which most of the conclusions about the irreconcilable violence of that society were based. Yet another is the dispute over the estimates of the number of Iraqis killed since the U.S. invasion of 2003. One study’s claim of over 600,000 deaths during the first 3.3 years has not been adequately substantiated. Yet, the very conditions on the ground in Iraq may make determining the reliability of other estimates equally problematic. More generally, the ready availability on the Internet of information hitherto difficult to access, such as identifying by street address financial contributors to candidates and parties, raises a host of ethical questions when academics then publish maps of such data, and activists can then harass the contributors. Finally, mapping software is not some innocent technology without ethical implications. The recent case of Google Earth’s “layered” maps of Japan identifying historic areas of residence of burakumin or low caste people stigmatizes these areas and the people who still live there and also potentially opens up these people who have previously hidden their stigma to future discrimination.

There is no way we can suddenly fix the dilemmas to which these controversies point. The AAG Council has recently set up a task force to see whether the association should develop more specific ethical guidelines relating to research funding and practice. Some very good ones are already available (for example, the International Society of Ethnobiology publishes some very clear and stringent ones). We can of course also better publicize the ones we already have in place. Though neither the AAG nor other professional associations hold inquisitorial or disciplinary powers, we do need to have more frequent and open debate about research ethics. The introductory graduate course is one place to start. We also have to stop pretending that research malpractice, like the few rotten apples in war crimes prosecutions, is simply a rare occurrence.

Of course, we all get things wrong from time to time. Often it is because many of us too desperately hope to find what we already assume is true. We are often closed off to surprise. At the same time, we need to see that disagreements and misunderstandings are inherent in the academic enterprise and not, as ad hominem visions would have it, always the fruit of evil, hubris, and dishonesty. But good sense certainly mandates that we endeavor to engage in “mindfulness,” what the ethnobiologists define as “a continual willingness to evaluate one’s own understandings, actions, and responsibilities to others.” As in life, so in research, but as we all know, easier said than done.

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isolated with no common thread to pull them together, or to achieve inter-operability with other efforts underway. The AAG GIS Clearinghouse and Forum will provide an exchange venue to facilitate standards development, and to allow other interested researchers to draw on best practices or identify common pitfalls to be avoided. Moreover, the forum also will provide basic online instructional materials on GIS technologies, which are relatively new to many historical researchers and can be difficult to implement, particularly when using its more complex and powerful capabilities.

Thus, the AAG’s development of this online digital humanities resource will serve two primary functions:

1. A clearinghouse of newly developing, GIS-based historical archives and research projects from around the world. Also included will be links to georeferenced historical data, historical gazetteers, and related ongoing projects and programs. As mentioned above, such research exists but has nowhere been gathered together to function as a resource or benchmark for what has been done. We will work with authors to create metadata for indexing and cataloguing of these projects for the use of historians, geographers, and other humanities scholars, so that information and resources are easy to locate.

2. An interactive discussion center that provides an online forum for historians, geographers, and other humanities scholars to network with each other and discuss pressing research needs and topics such as:
   a. Challenges facing historical GIS work,
   b. Best practices in GIS-based historical research,
   c. Key technical issues and how to resolve them,
   d. Data consistency and comparability issues, including data standards,
   e. Theoretical and conceptual issues in approaches to incorporating geographical data into historical research projects, and
   f. Additional themes or discussion threads to be developed by participating researchers.

In addition, we envision that this discussion center will create a digital commons that brings experts in different topical areas together and helps facilitate dialogue across these groups. Because GIS-based historical research is a relatively new concept, we feel there is an enormous benefit to be gained from providing a “place” where research and researchers in this area can find each other. The Historical Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Clearinghouse and Forum will be hosted by the AAG, but available via links from many other university and related websites, including the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress Geography and Map Division.

To encourage participation in the Historical Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Clearinghouse and Forum, we plan to publicize this site widely by contacting scholars through the AAG’s Historical Geography Specialty Group and the Geographical Information Science and Systems Specialty Group, as well as through the Harvard Center for Geographic Analysis, the American Historical Association, the Royal Geographical Society, the American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS), and other organizations. The establishment of this resource is planned to coincide with the launch of the AAG’s new website in late 2009, and we are currently organizing a number of scholarly panels and workshops on historical research and geographic technologies for the AAG’s 2010 Annual Meeting to be held April 14-18, 2010 in Washington, D.C. Based on the response to special sessions we organized this past year in Las Vegas on topics of Historical GIS, we expect the 2010 workshops and sessions will be of particular interest both geographers and historians involved in research at the intersections of our fields.

This Chairman’s Grant has grown out of several years of conversation and correspondence by the AAG with NEH Chairman Bruce Cole and others at NEH regarding the value of geographic perspectives and of GIS as innovative and interactive resources for digital humanities research. By funding this project, the NEH has placed itself at the forefront of an important and growing trend at the nexus of historical and geographical research, and we are grateful for their support. We also feel strongly that, by building on the work the AAG has already completed in the area of geography and the humanities, this project will provide a very substantial resource and forum for geography and history researchers within a relatively short timeframe.

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traveled to Washington, D.C. to compete in the National Science Bowl. Shantan Krovvidi, a 13 year-old 7th grader from Raleigh, N.C., is a second-degree black belt in tae kwon do, and Yang won first place in the Dallas Jazz Piano Competition three straight years.

Trebek asked Yang, the Bee’s eventual winner, if he could think of any weaknesses he might have. After a long pause, much to the audience’s delight, Yang simply could not think of anything. Trebek laughed good-naturedly. “You remind me of a former president, but let’s not get into that,” he quipped. Yang’s confidence proved to be well-founded, however.

The Bee concluded with this question: “Timis County shares its name with a tributary of the Danube and is located in the western part of which European country?” In a head-to-head showdown for the grand prize with Arjun Kandaswamy, a fourteen year-old 8th grader from Beaverton, Oregon, Yang coolly named the correct country, Romania, while Kandaswamy answered Hungary.

Yang earned a $25,000 college scholarship as Geographic Bee champion, a lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society, and an all-expenses paid trip, along with one parent, to the Galapagos Islands. Trebek will accompany them on the trip.

The 2009 National Geographic Bee was sponsored by Google Earth. More on the National Geographic Bee may be found by visiting www.nationalgeographic.com.
Richardson Receives AAG Presidential Achievement Award

AAG Past President Thomas Baerwald announced that Douglas Richardson has been selected as a recipient of the AAG Presidential Achievement Award for 2009. An award ceremony was conducted during the Past President’s Plenary at the AAGs Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, during which Baerwald presented the award and delivered the following statement on behalf of the AAG Council:

“On behalf of the AAG and with unanimous concurrence of the AAG Council, I am proud to present Douglas Richardson with the 2009 AAG Presidential Achievement Award. Doug earned his bachelor’s degree at the University of Michigan, his M.A. at Goddard-Cambridge College, and his PhD at Michigan State University. Doug worked on the Northern Cheyenne Research Project and with the Council of Energy Resource Tribes before founding GeoResearch, Inc. This company was one of the first private-sector firms devoted specifically to geographic research, and it became a worldwide leader in GPS/GIS technology, automated mapping, and geographic management systems.

After selling the company in 1998, Doug began working with the AAG in 2000, first as Director of Research and Strategic Initiatives. In January 2003, he was appointed to serve as the AAG Executive Director. Since that time, the AAG has grown and prospered, and with it, geography as a field has advanced in many different ways. Evidence of Doug’s success at overseeing the AAG have been the growth of membership from 7,000 in 2002 to more than 10,000, the growth in registrations at our Annual Meetings from the 4,000 range as late as 2003 to more than 7,000, and the transformation of the operating budget of the AAG from significant losses in the early years of this decade to the generation of positive net assets for six consecutive years that have totaled almost $6.5 million.

Under Doug’s leadership, the AAG has entered into a publication agreement that expands the number of issues, pages, and distribution of the AAG journals while providing secured funding for the association. He has led efforts that have greatly expanded the association’s activities in education, research, public policy, and outreach. The AAG is very fortunate to have as its executive director an individual who is both a knowledgeable geographer from both scholarly and practitioner perspectives, but also a skilled administrator whose business acumen enables it to be as effective and efficient as possible.

In addition to leading the AAG, Doug has served in critical positions with the Population Reference Bureau, the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science, the Consortium of Social Science Associations, and several college and university foundations.

Because of Doug’s leadership, the AAG has gone from a precarious financial situation to a position that enabled Council last year to direct that $5 million be placed in a new endowment fund for the long-term benefit of the association. On behalf of the Council, I am pleased to announce that this new endowment has been named the Douglas Richardson Endowment for Geography’s Future.

Doug has been named a recipient of this award for his outstanding service as a geographer, as the leader of a path-breaking company that advanced geographic information science and technology, and as the Executive Director of the Association of American Geographers, which he has enabled to be a strong, cohesive, inclusive, and vibrant organization working to advance geography now and in the future. I ask you to join me in recognizing and thanking Doug for his outstanding service to geography and to the AAG.”

Previous recipients of the AAG Presidential Achievement Award are Harm de Blij, Bruce Alberts, Donald Meinig, Alan Voorhees, Trevor Barnes, Wilbur Zelinsky, Jack and Laura Dangermond, James Knox, David Ward, and Thomas Wilbanks.

Grants and Competitions

McCull Family Fellowship

The McCull Family Fellowship, given by Dr. and Mrs. Robert W. McCull, consists of round trip airfare to any place in the world of the candidate’s choosing. The candidate must secure funding for other expenses from other sources. The only obligation of the Fellow is to write an article based on the visit abroad that is suitable for publication in Focus on Geography magazine and that is submitted to the editor within six months upon return from the trip.

As is true of all Focus on Geography authors, candidates must be geographers or others “who think like geographers and write like journalists.” Selection is by a committee chosen by the AGS Council. The fellowship for this year was won by Assistant Professor Matthew Farish of the University of Toronto for a research project on the impact of the radar network established across the Canadian Arctic in the 1950s during the Cold War.

Applications for the McCull Family Fellowship for the year 2010 must be received in the AGS offices by October 15, 2009. They are to consist of the candidate’s curriculum vitae, a covering letter of no more than three pages that describes a) the proposed trip, b) the reasons for selecting that itinerary, and c) the candidate’s particular competence for doing fieldwork there, and a statement of the sum requested. Samples of writing similar to the style of Focus on Geography may be included. Only submissions by hard copy will be accepted.

Apply: applications should be sent to: McCull Family Fellowship Committee, The American Geographical Society, 120 Wall Street, Suite 100, New York, New York 10005-3904.

For further information please contact Mary Lynne Bird at (212) 422-5456 (voice), (212) 422-5480 (fax), or by email at MLBird@amergeo.org (for information only), or see the AGS website at www.amergeo.org.
International Workshop to Promote Scholarship of Academic Practice

The International Network for Learning and Teaching Geography in Higher Education (INLT) invites your participation in a two-day workshop, “Changing Geography in Higher Education: Towards a Scholarship of Academic Practice”, from April 12-13 at the Marriott Wardman Park hotel in Washington, DC, just prior to the start of the 2010 AAG Annual Meeting.

Whereas previous INLT workshops focused primarily on classroom pedagogy and learning theory, the 2010 workshop will explore topics at the heart of securing geography's long-term growth and vitality in higher education systems worldwide. Although a continued focus on the scholarship of teaching and learning will remain important, scholarly consideration must also be given to issues of academic practice and organizational development. Participants in the 2010 INLT workshop will therefore explore international perspectives and scholarly approaches to issues such as:

- Improving the professional development of early career geographers
- Bringing about change in undergraduate and graduate curricula
- Strengthening the leadership capacity of departments
- Promoting synergistic activities with other disciplines
- Engaging geographers in public policymaking
- Developing students for geographical careers in business, government, and non-profit organizations
- and much more.

INLT seeks the participation of geographers in both academic and administrative positions. The workshop is limited to 50 participants. Individuals from developing regions are especially encouraged to apply. Funding is available to support a limited number of graduate students.

In the months preceding the workshop, participants will be organized into working groups of 4-6 members and begin preparing a collaborative manuscript addressing one of the workshop's featured topics. Early drafts of the manuscripts will be posted in an online community forum for review and discussion prior to and during the workshop. Manuscripts will ultimately be submitted for possible publication in a special issue of the *Journal of Geography in Higher Education*.

The 2010 INLT workshop is being sponsored by the UK Higher Education Academy Subject Centre for Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences (GEES), Taylor & Francis, the AAG's Enhancing Departments and Graduate Education (EDGE) project, and the *Journal of Geography in Higher Education*.

For further information and to apply, please visit the INLT website at www.geog.canterbury.ac.nz/inlt. The application deadline is August 1, 2009.

INLT will select participants to ensure the working groups reflect demographic and regional diversity. Individuals will be notified of their acceptance into the workshop by September 15, 2009.

AAG Offers Travel Grants to IGU Regional Meeting in Tel-Aviv 2010

The AAG has received funding from the National Science Foundation to defray the expenses of participation by U.S. scientists in the International Geographical Union Regional Conference in Tel Aviv, Israel to be held in coordination with the Israeli National Commission of Geography from July 12-16, 2010. The AAG will provide approximately twenty-seven travel grants for this meeting: fifteen grants of $2,000 each to 15 junior scholars, including graduate students, and twelve awards of $1,500 each to senior scholars. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Details regarding the conference are available at www.igu2010.com.

For information on eligibility and to download the application form, please refer to www.aag.org/grantsawards/igutravel.html. Digital submissions are required and should arrive to grantsawards@aag.org with a priority deadline of December 1, 2009.

Nominations for AAG Vice President and National Councillor

The AAG Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations for Vice President and National Councillor for the 2010 election. Deadline for nominations is August 31, 2009. For nominating details see page 24, this issue.
UN Features AAG’s Geography and Sustainable Development Programs

The AAG showcased two programs at the 17th Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), held May 4-15, 2009. The CSD is a high level forum responsible for guiding implementation of the Agenda 21 program adopted at the 1992 Earth Summit.

CSD organizers recognized two AAG programs—My Community, Our Earth: Geographic Learning for Sustainable Development and the AAG/EIS-AFRICA Collaboration: Geospatial Science for Sustainable Development—as model initiatives that were particularly relevant to the CSD-17 regional focus on Africa, and thematic foci on agriculture, drought, desertification, land, and rural development. In addition to showcasing the AAG’s work on sustainable development at the CSD Partnership Fair, AAG staff presented specifically on both featured programs during a special session on applications of geospatial technologies for sustainable development.

The My Community, Our Earth program (MyCOE) was established in 2002 in conjunction with the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which was organized in part to take stock of the international community’s progress towards the goals set forth in Agenda 21. Correspondingly, MyCOE adopted the 40 chapters of Agenda 21 as organizing themes. MyCOE engages a diverse and expanding student and mentor network around the world to encourage the use of geographic tools and concepts to address local sustainable development issues. MyCOE is currently focusing on the use of GIS, remote sensing, and geospatial analytical techniques for biodiversity conservation in Africa. This latest initiative will also help to strengthen collaboration among African universities, government environmental authorities, and NGOs around sustainability goals.

The second AAG program spotlighted at CSD-17 was the AAG’s collaboration with EIS-AFRICA, a leading African geography, GIS, and environmental science organization. The organizations began working together in 2008, and have made significant progress in efforts to build African capacity to use geo-spatial science and environmental information in academic, governmental and non-governmental institutions. Collaboration has focused specifically on training end-users on use of geographic data; developing relationships with African universities to support capacity building and institutional development; identifying and filling gaps in fundamental geospatial datasets for three initial countries: Burkina Faso, Uganda, Namibia; and a reciprocal membership program between the AAG and EIS-Africa.

Editors of Progress in Human Geography Announce GeObits Initiative

The editors of Progress in Human Geography are pleased to announce GeObits, a new initiative within the field of geographical scholarship and publishing.

GeObits is an electronic-only supplement to PiHG. It is designed to provide an opportunity to record, in biographical commemoration, the life, works and scholarly achievements of deceased academic geographers and of all members of the geographical community, broadly interpreted, for whom biographical notes of remembrance would be appropriate.

The development of GeObits reflects widespread interest in biographical work within geography and provides an opportunity to recognize the contributions of individuals which might otherwise be overlooked. It does not seek to prescribe who is remembered in this way, nor guide how remembrance of geographers may be undertaken. It is, rather, a resource open to all, an opportunity to provide a record of lives lived, to afford remembrance of a teacher and colleague and to note research and scholarly achievements.

If, in time, GeObits serves to provide an electronic record of geographers and their achievements, that will be welcome. Its primary purpose, however, is to allow a space for the geographical community to note, in memoir, the contributions made by individuals to the field of Geography broadly defined.

Intending contributors are invited to get in touch with Charlie Withers (c.w.j.withers@ed.ac.uk), the PiHG editor responsible for GeObits.

Noel Castree, Vicky Lawson, Roger Lee, Anssi Paasi, Sarah Radcliffe, Charlie Withers
Editors
Progress in Human Geography
history of atmospheric sulfate concentrations in southern Asia as recorded by a Himalayan ice core” (2007, with Duan, K., L. G. Thompson, T. Yao, and M. E. Davis) in Geophysical Research Letters, 34.

Anthony Bebbington is Professor of Nature, Society and Development and ESRC Professorial Research Fellow, IDPM, School of Environment and Development, at the University of Manchester. His work addresses the political ecology of rural change with a particular focus on social movements, indigenous organizations, livelihoods, extractive industries and socio-environmental conflicts. His most recent books and edited collections include Can NGOs Make A Difference? The Challenge of Development Alternatives (Zed, 2008, with D. Mitlin and S. Hickey), Institutional Pathways to Equity (World Bank, 2008, with A. Dani, M. Walton and A. de Haan), Mining, social movements and peasant responses: a political ecology of territorial transformations (Instituto de Estudios Peruanos/CEPES, 2007), Mining and development in Peru (Peru Support Group, with M. Connarty MP, W. Coxshall, H. O’Shaughnessy and M. Williams), Development success: statecraft in the South (Palgrave, 2007 with W. McCourt) and “Social Movements and the Dynamics of Rural Development in Latin America,” a special section of World Development (2008, with R. Abramovay and M. Chiriboga).

Eric Lambin, Professor, Department of Geography and Geology, University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, was elected to NAS as a foreign associate. He was previously Assistant Professor at Boston University and Expert for the European Commission at the Joint Research Center (Ispra). Lambin is the current Chair of the Land-Use and Land-Cover Change (LUCC) program of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP) and International Human Dimensions Program on Global Environmental Change (IHDP). His research interests include the monitoring of land-cover changes by remote sensing, and the modeling of land-use changes and some of their impacts on coupled human-environment systems. Lambin has published extensively in leading scientific journals in remote sensing, geography and environmental sciences.

The National Academy of Sciences is a private organization of scientists and engineers dedicated to furthering science and its uses for the general welfare. It was established in 1863 by a congressional act of incorporation, signed by Abraham Lincoln, which calls on the NAS to act as an official adviser to the federal government, upon request, in any matter of science or technology.

More on the National Academy of Sciences is available at www.nasonline.org.
Washington Monitor

Key Change at USGS Proposed; FY 2010 Budget Takes Shape

During the week of April 27, Congress approved the FY 2010 joint budget resolution, which sets parameters for the annual federal appropriations bills that must be passed by October 1. The resolution calls for $540 billion in non-defense discretionary spending—the portion of the budget that includes most accounts of interest to geographers, including the National Science Foundation (NSF), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and other key research funding agencies.

Separately, on May 7, the Obama Administration released additional details about its FY 2010 spending goals. In sum, the President would like to cut or reduce a total of 121 programs, which would save $17 billion annually. Fortunately, none of the programs on the chopping block are central to geographic research.

The Administration also made a key proposal affecting the USGS Geography program: Interior Secretary Ken Salazar would like to move the Survey’s National Geospatial Program from the Enterprise Information account to the Geography discipline with the USGS.

The USGS indicates that “the realignment will allow USGS to gain efficiencies, improve effectiveness, promote geographic research, leverage remote sensing technologies, and focus USGS geography programs on addressing important societal issues identified in the USGS Science Strategy.” In total, the Administration proposes a total of $143.9 million for the Survey’s Geography program—$70.7 million of which is the geospatial account.

The USGS budget also proposes an increase of $300,000 to Geographic Analysis and Monitoring for energy-related research. The Administration also stressed its intent to focus $11.1 million of geographic research funding on “documenting the combined impacts of land use and climate change on soil properties and on renewable energy.”

Finally, the release stated that “the 2010 Land Remote Sensing budget of $62.1 million will allow USGS to continue operations and maintenance for Landsats 5 and 7, and will work with NASA and the Landsat Science Team to continue development of the Landsat Data Continuity Mission. This will improve USGS’s ability to monitor and analyze changes on the Earth’s surface and will maintain the constant record used by scientists and decision makers.”

Additional budget detail from other key science agencies that support geography (including the NSF) is expected in the coming weeks. We will report on those programs as information becomes available.

Full PCAST Takes Shape

In my February column, I covered the appointment of some of the top science advisors to President Obama, including that of John Holdren, who is serving as Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). Holdren also co-chairs the President’s Council of Advisers on Science and Technology (PCAST) with Eric Lander and Harold Varmus, former Director of the National Institutes of Health. (Please see my February column for biographical information on Holdren, Lander, and Varmus.)

We now know the full membership of PCAST. While there are no geographers on the panel, there are a number of individuals active in related fields, including Rosina Bierbaum, Dean of the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan; Mario Molina, Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of California, San Diego and the Center for Atmospheric Sciences at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, as well as Director of the Mario Molina Center for Energy and Environment in Mexico City; Ernest J. Moniz, Professor of Physics and Engineering Systems and Director of the Laboratory for Energy and the Environment at MIT; Craig Mundie, Chief Research and Strategy Officer at Microsoft Corporation; Barbara Schaal, Professor of Biology at Washington University in St Louis; Eric Schmidt, Chairman and CEO of Google Inc.; and Daniel Schrag, Professor of Geology in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Harvard University and Director of the Harvard University-wide Center for Environment.

For a complete list of PCAST members, see www.ostp.gov/cs/pcast.

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Visiting Scholar at AAG

Dr. Chew Hung Chang (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) visited the AAG from April 27–May 6 to share his expertise in web-based learning environments as a consultant with the AAG’s Center for Global Geography Education (CGGE) project. He is co-author of the CGGE Global Climate Change module and is helping the CGGE team design interactive web pages and student activities in the Moodle e-learning platform.

Chew Hung is currently an Assistant Professor in the National Institute of Education at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. His research interests include urban climates, global climate change, social media and learning, the socio-cultural context of web based learning, digital libraries, and new technologies in geography.

In addition to his work with CGGE, Chew Hung met with AAG staff to discuss developments in geography education in the U.S. and Singapore, and made a formal presentation of his research on April 30. He is also working with the AAG to plan a CGGE workshop in Singapore (tentatively scheduled for winter 2010) in cooperation with the Southeast Asian Geography Association.
Rebecca Woiteshek, a senior in geography at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin, recently presented her senior thesis, “Dire Straits: Using Geographic Information Science (GIS) to Better Identify and Serve the Urban Poor” to members of Congress and their staffs at the annual “Posters on the Hill” event in Washington, D.C.

Sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), “Posters on the Hill” features sixty students from across the U.S. presenting their research following a competitive review of all projects submitted. This year’s event was held on May 5 in the Rayburn House Office Building.

In her senior research project, Woiteshek used GIS to analyze demographic changes in the Watts neighborhood of urban Los Angeles over the past 10 years. Specifically, her research focused on ethnic changes within Watts as it transformed from a predominantly African-American neighborhood to one that is primarily Hispanic. In her presentation, she detailed Watts’ demographic transformation and the resulting needs of a Spanish-speaking community isolated within an English-speaking culture.

Woiteshek began her involvement in Watts four years ago, when she volunteered with Faith in Christ Ministries (FICM), a local non-profit that has focused on helping Watts’ predominantly African-American urban poor since the late 1960s. The leaders of FICM had seen a continuing decline of community participation in recent years and were struggling to complete their mission. According to Woiteshek, although it was obvious that Watts was changing, the magnitude and complexity of demographic changes taking place there could not be understood through visual observation or a thorough reading of census data alone. By employing GIS, Woiteshek was able to capture the dynamic changes taking place in Watts over time, including the specific ways demographic composition would change at very small spatial scales. Field work helped her confirm the nature of these changes and the unique problems that new immigrants to the area are encountering.

Woiteshek’s research helped to confirm the fact that there were two distinct communities in Watts, and that the Hispanic community was in fact spatially isolated within a larger English-speaking culture. The leaders of FICM, which had traditionally worked with African-Americans, “wanted to be more relevant to their community” Woiteshek told the AAG Newsletter. Better understanding the complexity of the demographic changes taking place in Watts “allows them to switch gears,” she said. “They’re not changing their mission statement, but this helps them better implement their mission statement.”

Woiteshek was accompanied in Washington by her academic advisor, Julio Rivera, Chair of the Department of Geography at Carthage College.

Additional information about the Council on Undergraduate Research and the “Posters on the Hill” event is available at www.cur.org.

Henry Hudson Interactive Map

The 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson’s historic 3rd voyage to North America is being commemorated this year through a series of special events and projects organized through the Henry Hudson 400 Foundation. These include an interactive map developed in collaboration with Google Earth which combines rare historical maps of New York with current satellite images and Google maps. A rare maps exhibition will open this September. (www.henryhudson400.com/home.php)

Junior Researcher Award

The Alexander Humboldt Foundation is currently seeking applications for the Sofja Kovalevskaja Award 2010, which will allow a cutting-edge junior researcher from abroad to work independently for a period of five years at an institute of their own choice in Germany. The doctorate must have been completed within the last six years to be eligible. Closing date for applications is October 15, 2009. (www.humboldt-foundation.de/SKP_en)

NRC Report on Alternative Fuels

Liquid fuels from biomass and coal have the potential to reduce petroleum fuel use and CO2 emissions in the U.S. transportation sector over the next 25 years, according to a new report released by the National Research Council. However, substantial investments will be required if these alternative liquid fuels are to be produced in an environmentally-conscious way, and at a magnitude that could impact U.S. dependence on imported oil. (www.nasonline.org).

Call for Abstracts: 2011 Annals Special Issue

At the beginning of the Balkan wars in 1991, Jacques Poos (Luxembourg's foreign minister) mistakenly believed that resolving the conflicts would mark "the hour of Europe." He thought that collective European diplomacy could succeed alone. Such invocations of "the hour of Europe" as a collective actor in world politics have a long history and come to the fore during moments of change. Discussions about the European Community's collective role, in particular in relation to and as an alternative to the USA, emerged in the 1970s, associated with the idea of Europe as a "civilian power" focused on diplomacy and economic influence rather than the military weight of the superpowers.1

The cover of the Time magazine's Europe edition on December 1, 2008 indicates a resurgence of debate on Europe's role in the world.2 The Caucasus conflict, the financial crisis, renewed violence in the Middle East, and the Russian-Ukrainian dispute over gas prices lead to fresh debates on Europe's stance. The cover portrays a "European" hermit crab peaking out of its shell next to the words: "Time for the old continent to come out of its shell and meet the new world." Moreover, through the past decade the neoconservative reorientation of American foreign policy under George W. Bush had generated fresh interest in Europe as an alternative source of influence.

Since the end of the Cold War the EU has developed into a grouping of countries largely tied together through mobility, connection and commerce. It comprises 27 member states and covers an area stretching from Ireland to the Black Sea, thereby containing almost 500 million people and constituting the world's largest integrated economy. Interactions between political levels are regulated and institutionalized through a complex array of procedures and agencies whereby the idea and practice of a "domestication" of international relations mediates power relations through networked spaces of interaction of society, states and the European institutions.

On Time magazine's cover, the hermit crab suggests that Europe is content within its shell but reluctant (possibly incapable) of acting more actively as a collective geopolitical actor. Calling for a more active collective European role implies legitimacy for the European Union as a global actor, based on the appeal of its internal model for international relations. Whilst Europe has long succeeded in acting with relative unity on economic issues, the interests of individual member states/governments often preclude a more active collective geopolitical role. This political fragmentation is a feature of the uniqueness of and limits to the European integration process, raising doubts about its real value as an alternative geopolitical influence. At the same time, the international perception of American policy has changed with the arrival of the Obama administration. President Obama embodies some of the diplomatic, collaborative foreign political charm that Europe had largely claimed during the Bush presidency. In comparison to much less charismatic European leaders, such as Gordon Brown and Angela Merkel, the arrival of Obama enabled the USA to recapture some of the global appeal that it had ceded during the previous eight years. Moreover, Obama seems to be more in tune with and at ease with the diversity of contemporary Europe than many Europeans are.

What now then for Europe as a collective actor in the world? In many ways neither Europeans nor Americans have quite come to terms with the shifts of the later part of the 20th century, the rise of China and relative decline in their influence and roles. Despite occasional British and French delusions of grandeur, individually, European countries have limited influence. Collectively "the old continent" has something significant to offer: mainly its experience in regulating ways of international organization and overcoming war. Yet "Coming out of its shell" still seems to depend on the extent to which European countries align their geopolitical visions, not as an alternative but in combination with the Obama Administration. The prospect of collective diplomacy (on the part of the EU and America in tandem with other powers) resolving long standing conflicts, for example in the Levant as well as in South and Central Asia, is barely on the agenda. Moreover, the historical legacies and contemporary interactions of European and American imperialism across swathes of Africa and Asia should induce caution amongst those who advocate new battles in the name of peace, democracy, "civilization" and security.

Veit Bachmann and James D. Sidaway
School of Geography
University of Plymouth, UK

2 This cover may be viewed at www.time.com/time/magazine/europe/0,9263,901081201,00.html.
Derek H. Alderman, Associate Professor of Geography, is the East Carolina University recipient of the 2008-2009 UNC Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching. The award is the highest teaching honor in the state and presented annually to one tenured faculty member at each of the 17 campuses in the UNC system.

Two scientists who found warning signs of climate change in the upper atmosphere and in the deepest ice sheets will share the 2009 Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement. The award, consisting of a $200,000 cash prize and gold medals, will go to Richard Alley, professor of geosciences at Penn State University, and Veerabhadran Ramanathan, professor of atmospheric and climate sciences in the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego.

Oliver Chadwick (Chair, University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Geography) was recently named a 2009 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). AAAS Fellows are honored for “meritorious efforts to advance science or its applications.” More about AAAS Fellows is available at www.aaas.org.

Texas State doctoral student Catherine Cooper has been selected as the 2009–10 Grosvenor Scholar. The Grosvenor Scholar Program, developed as a partnership between Texas State University–San Marcos, the Roy F. and Joann Cole Mitte Foundation, and the National Geographic Society (NGS), provides a one-year residency at NGS headquarters in Washington, DC for a Texas State PhD student in Geographic Education. For additional information about the Grosvenor Scholar Program at Texas State University–San Marcos, contact Richard Boehm, Director, Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education, at 512-245-3615 or rb03@txstate.edu.

Harm de Blij, John A. Hannah Professor of Geography at Michigan State University, was recipient of the Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Award during a ceremony at Tufts University on Friday, February 20, 2009.

Leslie A. Duram, Professor and Chair of Geography at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar Grant to conduct research at the National University of Ireland at Galway for the upcoming academic year. She will work on local food issues with colleagues in Ireland.

Three American Geographers, Ashok K. Dutt of the University of Akron, T.R. Lakshmanan of Boston University, and Bheru Sukhwal of the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater were recently awarded the highest scholarly honor granted by the National Association of Geographers of India, the Bhugool Bachaspati Award.

The AAG Geography of Religions and Belief Systems Specialty Group (GORABS) presented Lily Kong, National University of Singapore, with the Robert Stoddard Award in recognition of her “rich, theoretically-informed empirical research within this field over the past 20 years.”

Lily Kong is presented with the Robert Stoddard Award by
Ed Davis, Previous Chair of GORABS, at the 2009 AAG Annual Meeting.

Steve Herbert was recently honored with a Distinguished Teaching Award at the University of Washington, where he holds a joint appointment in the Department of Geography and the Law, Societies, and Justice Program.

At its Annual Meeting on March 28, 2009, the Association of Japanese Geographers presented a special award to P. P. Karan, professor of geography at the University of Kentucky. The citation, read by Akira Tabayashi, President of the Association of Japanese Geographers, stated that Karan had contributed to the advancement of cultural and environmental geography and noted his pioneering work in the fields of Himalayan and Japanese studies.

Chuck Martin, Kansas State University, has been selected to receive the KSU Presidential Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising for 2009. Only one award is made campus wide each year. Martin has served as the Lead Undergraduate Advisor in the Department of Geography since 2001. He also serves as Director for the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES) secondary major.

John O’Leary, San Diego State University, was awarded a $131,301 research contract by the Department of Defense to conduct long-term environmental monitoring of 82 permanent vegetation plots located in 22 vegetation types found on Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, California. The vegetation plots were previously sampled by O’Leary and co-workers in 1993 and 1999. The great bulk of the plots burned in October 2003 in the massive Cedar Fire that burned 113,016 hectares, killed 15 people, and destroyed 2,820 structures in San Diego County.

A graduating geography major at Kansas State University, Nicole Wayant, has been chosen by the Kansas State Office of the Provost to receive the 2009 Distinguished Undergraduate Student in Research Award. Wayant was involved in various research projects as an undergraduate student through the Remote Sensing and GIS Labs. Now in its third year, the award carries with it an honorarium of $1,000.
Two geographers are among 19 environmental researchers from across North America named Leopold Leadership Fellows for 2009. Anne Chin, Department of Geography, University of Oregon, received the honor for her work on the dynamics of dryland rivers affected by urban development and the dynamics of headwater mountain streams. Simon Donner, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, was awarded a Leopold Fellowship for ongoing research examining the effects of climate change and land use change on ecosystems.

Based at Stanford University's Woods Institute for the Environment, the Leopold Leadership Program was founded in 1998 to help academic scientists communicate scientific information more effectively to journalists, policymakers, business leaders, and the public. Each year the program selects as many as 20 mid-career academic environmental scientists as fellows.

“These 19 outstanding researchers are engaged in cutting-edge research about Earth's environmental systems” said Pam Sturmer, managing director of the Leopold Leadership Program. “Through our program, they will gain new skills and connections to make sure their research is heard and is useful to decision making.”

The 2009 fellows come from a wide range of disciplines, including marine science, ecology, engineering, and economics. Chin and Donner will join a network of 134 past fellows active in science outreach who continue to work toward bringing scientific understanding into both public and private sector discussions about the environment.

The fellows were chosen for their outstanding qualifications as scientists, demonstrated leadership ability, and strong interest in communicating science beyond traditional academic audiences. Each fellow participates in two week-long training sessions that include practice media interviews and testifying at a mock congressional hearing. The fellowship also offers peer networking.

According to Pamela Matson, Dean of Stanford’s School of Earth Sciences, “Solving problems requires a two-way flow of information and communication between scientists and decision makers…The Leopold Leadership Program trains academics to close the gap between knowledge and action.”

The Leopold Leadership Program is funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The program is named for influential environmentalist, ecologist, and author Aldo Leopold (1887-1948). The full list of 2009 Leopold Fellows and additional information on the program is available at http://leopoldleadership.org.
AAG Specialty Groups and Affinity Groups are voluntary associations of AAG members. Each year, many of these groups confer awards on both faculty and students in conjunction with the AAG Annual Meeting. Recipients of the 2009 awards are listed below. Photographs are provided for those recipients who were in attendance at the awards luncheon in Las Vegas, site of the 2009 AAG Annual Meeting. For a full list of AAG Specialty and Affinity Groups, descriptions, and contact information, see www.aag.org/sg/sg_display.cfm.

Asian Geography SG
Student Paper Award
1st - Sara Smith, University of Arizona.
2nd - Todd Lindley, Indiana University, “Contemporary Representations of Whiteness in Manila Urban Landscape.”
2nd - Arnisson Andre Caparas Ortega, University of Washington, “Bahay and Bayanhan in Manila’s Extramuros: Situating the Geographies of the Habiting within a Neoliberal Context.”

A.K. Chakravarty Best Undergraduate Paper on South Asia Award (w/RDSPG)
Chandana Mitra, University of Georgia, “Growth of Urban Kolkata, India, and its Impact on the Precipitation Processes.”

Bible Geography SG
Amy Mather Student Scholar Award
Alyssa King, University of Redlands, “Phase 2 of the Spatially Interactive Literature Analysis System.”

Biogeography SG
Student Representative Support
Jacquelyn Gill, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Poster Presentation Competition
Maria Chaffrey, University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

PhD Paper Competition
Evan Larson, University of Minnesota.

Masters Student Paper Competition
Josh Wixom, West Virginia University.

Masters Grant Award
Yanan Li, University of Tennesse-Knoxville.

Doctoral Grant Award
William Flatley, Texas A&M University.

Cartography SG
Honors Student Paper Competition
Alex Yule, Middlebury College.
Robert Burton, Middlebury College.

National Geographic Society Mapping Award
1st Prize - Daniel Huffman, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
2nd Prize - Ben Coakley, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
3rd Prize - Gregg Verutes, San Diego State University.

Examples of the winning maps and application information for next year’s award can be found at natgeomaps.com/mapawards, or contact David Miller, NG Maps, at dmiller@ngs.org.

China SG
Best Student Paper Award
Francine F.X. Yi, The University of Hong Kong, “Urban Land Development and Local Public Finance in China’s Urbanization.”

Student Travel Grant Award
Penglei Li, Peking University, “Evolutionary Processes of Interactive Learning: Aluminum Extrusion Industry in Dali, Guangdong Province, China.”
Jessica Wilczek, University of Toronto, “Migrants Troubled by Lack of Sex: The Politics of Solicitude for Migrant Workers in Contemporary China.”

Outstanding Service Award
Kam Wing Chan, University of Washington.

Climate SG
John Russell Mather Paper of the Year Award
Lei Meng, Texas A&M University, “A Comparison of Soil Moisture Models Using Soil Climate Analysis Network Observations.”

Student Paper Competition
1st - Erika Wise, University of Arizona.
2nd - David Hondula, University of Virginia.
2nd - Cory Morin, University of Arizona.
Honorable Mention – David Knight, University of Virginia.

Coastal and Marine SG
Norb Psuty Student Paper Merit Award
Bailiang Li, Texas A&M University, “Field Evaluation of Grain Scale Aeolian Saltation Sensors.”

Communications Geography SG
Stanley D. Brunn Student Paper Award
Ann Fletchall, Arizona State University.
David Meek, University of Georgia.

Cryosphere SG
2009 Francois Emile Matthes Award
H. Jesse Walker, Louisiana State University.

Cultural Geography SG
Research Grant
Nick Bausch, University of California-Los Angeles, “A Historical Geography of Digestion: The Case of the Kellogg Cereal Enterprise and the Making of the Modern Stomach, 1875-1900.”

James Looney, University of Kentucky, “Visions of Place, Senses of Landscape: More-Than-Representational Ethnography on Okracoke Island, NC.”

Sharon Wilcox, University of Texas-Austin, “Encountering El Tigre: Jaguars and People in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands.”

Cultural and Political Ecology
James M. Blaut Innovative Publication Award
Robert McCorkle Netting Award
Piers M. Blaikie, University of East Anglia.

Student Field Study Award
Brittany Davis, University of Arizona.
Zoe Pearson, Ohio State University.

Student Paper Award
Mathew Himley, Syracuse University, "On Method and Metric: The Politics of Assessing Mining’s Environmental Impacts in Andean Peru."

Environmental Perception and Behavioral Geography SG
Saarinen Student Paper Award
Stephanie Deitrick, Arizona State University, "Maps, Climate Change, and Mediated Knowledge: Mass Media and (Un)Certain Science."

Ethnic Geography SG
Best Dissertation Proposal

Geographic Information Systems and Science SG
Robert T. Aangeenbrug Distinguished Career Award
Jerome Dobson, University of Kansas.

Geographic Perspectives on Women
Glenda Laws Student Paper Award
Kate Coddington Senner, Syracuse University, "Alaskan Colonial Legacies, Both Strange and Familiar: A Ghost Story.”
Caroline Faria, University of Washington.

Jan Monk Service Award
Penn State University Chapter of Supporting Women in Geography. Destiny Aman and Ann Myatt James, Pennsylvania State University.

Cyberinfrastructure SG
Student Paper Competition
1st - Dylan Keon, Oregon State University, "The Tsunami Computational Portal: Distributed Infrastructure for Executing and Comparing Models.”
2nd - Hyowon Ban, Ohio State University, "Representing and Negotiating Uncertain Exuban Concepts with User Evaluation.”
3rd - Wenwen Li, George Mason University, "An Enhanced Feature Matching Model for Similarity Measurement in the Semantic Web.”
4th - Ick Hoi Kim, San Diego State University, "Geospatial Stimulation and Visualization Web Portal Using the TerraGrid.”

Development Geographies SG
Student Paper Award
Kim Beazley, University of Cambridge.

Economic Geography SG
Best Dissertation Award
Julia Affolderbach, Simon Fraser University, “Engos and Environmental Bargains: A Comparative Study of Forest Conflicts in Tasmania and British Columbia.”

Graduate Student Research Award
Tim Rutland, University of British Columbia.

Student Conference Paper Award
Roy Horner, Clark University.

Geography Education SG
Gail Hobbs Student Paper Competition
Minsung Kim, Texas A&M, “Development of Students’ Understanding of Spatial Concepts in the Korean Context.”

Geomorphology SG
Melvin G. Marcus Distinguished Career Award
Karl Butzer, University of Texas at Austin.

Graduate Student Paper Award: Masters Student
Ryan L. Perroy, University of California-Santa Barbara, “Quantifying Geomorphic Processes in a Disturbed Landscape, Southwestern Santa Cruz Island, CA.”

Reds Wolman Graduate Student Research Award
G. Burch Fisher, University of California-Santa Barbara, “Spatial and Temporal Quantification of Climate-Erosion Linkages in the Himalaya.”

Graduate Student Affinity Group
Graduate Student Research Award
Lucy Kammer, Syracuse University.
Joomi Lee, University of Texas-Austin, “Constructing a New Medieval City: Politics of Medina Revitalization and the Geographies of Discrimination.”
James Looney, University of Kentucky, “Visions of Place, Senses of Landscape: More-Than-Representational Ethnography on Okracoke Island, NC.”

Student Paper Competition
Dawn M. Drake, University of Tennessee, "Rural Agriculture as a Historical Cultural Indicator: The Case of Barus in Monroe County, Pennsylvania.”

Continued on page 16
Xingjian Liu, Texas State University-San Marcos, "Arc-Mat: A Matlab-based Spatial Data Analysis Toolbox."

Hazards SG
Gilbert F. White Thesis/Dissertation Award
Erin P. Hughey, University of South Florida, "A Longitudinal Study: The Impact of a Comprehensive Emergency Management System on Disaster Response in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas."

Giselle C. Perez, University of London-King's College London, "Vulnerability in the Shadows: A Case Study on the San Diego Migrant Hazardscape in a ‘War on Terror’ Climate."

Honorable Mention - Anna J. Versluis, Clark University, "We All Live Downstream: Disaster, Land Change and Reciprocity in a Haitian Watershed."


Jeanne X. Kasperson Student Paper Award
Christopher Burton, University of South Carolina, "From Conceptual Framework to Assessment: the Operationalization of a Place-Based Model for Understanding Community Resilience to Natural Disasters."

Khila Dahal, Texas State University, "Hazard and Risk: Perception of Glacial Lake Outburst Flooding from Tsho Rolpa Lake, Nepal."

Angela Gilbert, University of South Florida, "Hazardous Air Pollutants and Environmental Justice: The Geography of Health Risks in Florida."

Monica Zappa, Northern Illinois University, "Social, Economic, and Cultural Impacts on Hurricane Vulnerability in Bluefields, Nicaragua."

Health and Medical Geography SG
Jacques May Prize for Best PhD Dissertation
Laura J. Miller, University of Canterbury-Christchurch, NZ, "Population Mixing and Geographical Epidemiology of Childhood Leukemia and Type-1 Diabetes in New Zealand."

Best Student Paper Award
Christine Chung, Macalaster College, "Risk Factors of Young Females to HIV/AIDS in Jamaica."

Jacques May Prize for Best Master's Thesis
Julia Vedom, University of Ottawa-Canada, "Health Care Access and Regional Disparities in China."

Historical Geography SG
Andrew Hill Clark Award: Doctoral Student

Carville Earl Dissertation Research Award
Joomi Lee, University of Texas-Austin, "Constructing a Medieval City in Morocco."

Mountain Geography SG
Chimborazo Student Research Grant Award (HM)
Clayton Whitesides, Texas State University-San Marcos, "The Impact of Marmot Activity on Alpine Treeline Ecotones."

Mt. Everest Career Award 2009
David Zurick, Eastern Kentucky University.

Denali Recent Accomplishment Award
Charles W. Lafon, Texas A&M University.

Mauna Kea Student Presentation Award: Masters Level
Emily K. Smith, Virginia Tech, "Modeling the Incidence of White Pine Blister Rust Infection in Whitebark Pine at Alpine Treeline in the Northern Rocky Mountains Using GIS."

Mauna Kea Student Presentation Award: Doctoral Level
Grant P. Elliott, University of Minnesota, "Multi-Scale Influences of Climate, Topography, and Structure on 20th Century Tree Establishment at Upper Treeline in the Southern Rocky Mountains, USA."

Outstanding Student Research Proposal
Arvind Bhuta, Virginia Tech, "A Multi-Scale Analysis of Disturbance, Dynamics, and Climate-Growth Relationships in Mountain Longleaf Pine Forests in the Southeastern Ridge and Valley, AL."

Military Geography SG
Essay Competition
Edward Heath Robinson, SUNY- Buffalo, "Current Issues in Military Geography."

Matthew S. Eggleton, University of Buffalo, "What is Military Geography?"

Paleoenvironmental Change SG
M.A/U.G Presentation Competition
Jennifer Kusler, California State University-Sacramento, "A Reconstruction of Paleoenvironmental Change in the Kalamath Mountains of California."

PhD Student Paper Competition
Jennifer Marlon, University of Oregon, "Climate Change Impacts on Past Wildfires in North America."

Poster Presentation Competition
Maria Chaffrey, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, "A Reconstruction of Coastal Paleoenvironmental Change from Laguna Saladilla, Dominican Republic."

Political Geography SG
Dissertation Enhancement Award
Afton Clark-Sather, University of Colorado, "Water Resources Development and National Identity Building in Northwestern China."

Joomi Lee, University of Texas-Austin, "Constructing a New Medieval City: Politics of Medina Revitalization and the Geographies of Discrimination."

Graduate Student Paper Competition
Keith Linder, Syracuse University, "The Struggle for La Sierra: Contested Natures and Sovereign Scriptings in the San Luis Valley, Colorado."

Stanley D. Brunn Young Scholar Award
Dave Jansson, Uppsala University.

Julian Minghi Outstanding Research Award
Rachel Pain and Susan Smith, University of Durham, "Fear: Critical Geopolitics and Everyday Life."
Population Specialty Group

Student Paper Competition Award
Marta Jankowska, San Diego State University, "The Geodemographic Classification of Slums in a Developing City."

Finalists - Magdalena Benza, San Diego State University, and Anna Cieslik, Clark University.
Honorable Mention - Nathaniel Lewis, Queen's University.

Qualitative Research SG

Student Research Grant
Kate Skaggs, College of Charleston, “Implications of Emerging Neoliberal Politics on Conservation Governance in the South Carolina Low Country.”

Celia Vives "Luna" Gonzalez, University of British Columbia, “Negotiating Boundaries: Gendered Transnationalism from Senegal to Spain.”

Joomi Lee, University of Texas-Austin, “Constructing a New Medieval City: Politics of Medina Revitalization and the Geographies of Discrimination.”

Recreation, Tourism and Sport SG

Roy Wolfe Award
Daniel Knudsen.

Best Student Paper
Zhang Jiajie, National University of Singapore, "Of Kaoliang, Bullets and Knives: Local Entrepreneurs and the Battlefield Enterprise in Kinmen, Taiwan."

Best Graduate Student Paper
J. J. Zhang, National University of Singapore.

Regional Development and Planning SG

Best Undergraduate Student Paper Award
Gina Mazza, Boston University, "Challenges to Sustainable Development: A Case Study of Puerto San Carlos, Mexico."

A.K. Chakravarty Best Undergraduate Paper on South Asia Award (w/ AGSG)
Chandana Mitra, University of Georgia, “Growth of Urban Kolkata, India, and its Impact on the Precipitation Processes.”

Remote Sensing SG

Early Career Award
Le Wang, SUNY-Buffalo, “A Multi-Scale Approach for Delineating Individual Tree Crowns with Very-High Resolution Imagery.”

2009 Outstanding Contributions Award
Stanley Morain, University of New Mexico.

Student Honors Paper Competition
2nd - Xuefei Hu, Indiana State University, “Impervious Surface Extractions from IKONOS Imagery Using Object-Based Approach.”
3rd - Jahan Kariyeva, University of Arizona, “Land Surface Phenological Responses to Changes in Land and Water Use, Climate and Socio-Economic: Central Asia Before and After the USSR Collapse.”

Student Illustrated Paper Competition (Sponsored by CSG, RS, and GISS)
2nd - Mary Lindsey, University of Maryland, “Impact of Clouds on Later-Season Agricultural Land Cover Classification in Kentucky.”
3rd - Prajna Regmi, Clark University, “Im-

Rural Geography SG

The John Fraser Hart Award for Research Excellence
Peter B. Nelson, Middlebury College.

2009 Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Rural and Agricultural Geography
Janel M. Curry, Calvin College.

The Donald Q. Innis Award
Julie Guthman, University of California-Santa Cruz, Agrarian Dreams.

Student Paper Award
Andrew Riely, University of Texas at Austin, “Are Grass Fed Cattle Ranchers Real Cowboys?”

Transportation Geography SG

2009 PhD Dissertation Award in Transportation Geography
Hejun Kang, University of Idaho, “Moving Beyond the Individual: Activity-Based Modeling of Time Use and Travel Behavior Incorporating Intra-Household Interactions.”

2009 Edward L. Ullman Award for Significant Contributions to Transportation Geography
Harvey Miller, University of Utah.

Master’s Thesis Award
Kathleen Deutsch, University of California at Santa Barbara, “What’s So Special Continued on page 18
about This Place? An Examination of Sense of Place and its Correlation to Travel Behavior.”

**Sexuality and Space SG**

**Student Paper Competition**
Carey-Ann Morrison, University of Waikato-New Zealand, “Hetero(Sex)ual-ity and Home: Intimacies of Spaces and Spaces of Touch.”

Honorable Mention - Kate Hardy, Queen Mary University of London, “Resisting Stigma, Rewriting the Street: Sex Worker Struggle in Argentina.”

**Water Resources SG**

**Illustrated Paper Competition**
Patrick Dryer, Missouri State University.

**Travel Grant**
Joseph Hoover, University of Arizona.
Jiao Wang, Texas State University-San Marcos.

**Student Paper Competition: Doctoral**
Ahmad S. A. Safi, University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

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**Call for Nominations:**

**AAG Honors and Nominating Committees**

The AAG Council seeks nominations for candidates to serve on the AAG Honors Committee and the AAG Nominating Committee. The Council will prepare the final slate of candidates for both committees from the nominations received, and committee members will be elected by a vote of the AAG membership.

Nominations for the Honors Committee may include persons 1) from the membership at large and 2) from those members who have previously received AAG Honors. A list of previous honorees can be found in the AAG Guide to Geography in the Americas and online at www.aag.org/grantsawards.

Honors Committee members serve for two years and are responsible for making recommendations of awardees for various AAG Honors for Council consideration. Nominating Committee members serve for one year. The committee recommends to the Council the slate of candidates for the AAG Vice President, President, and National Councillor elections.

If you wish to nominate yourself or other qualified individuals for service on these committees, please contact AAG Secretary Craig Colten by June 30, 2009. Nominations should include the contact information of the nominee, a brief biosketch, and indication that the nominee is willing to be placed on the slate of candidates for election by the AAG membership. Please send nominations to Craig by email (ccolten@lsu.edu) or by mail to: Craig Colten, AAG Secretary, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, 227 Howe-Russell, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

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**Recreation, Tourism and Sport Specialty Group**

At the 2009 AAG Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, a new executive for the Recreation, Tourism and Sport Specialty Group was elected. Daniel Olsen (Brandon University) was elected as chair, Anne Soper (George Mason University) was elected secretary/treasurer, and Leigh Miller Villegas (University of Colorado-Boulder) was elected as student representative. The RTS Board includes Anna Carrabetta (University of Milano-Bicocca), Caroline Scarles (University of Surrey), David Weaver (Griffith University), and Li Yang (Western Michigan University).

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**ADVERTISE IN THE AAG NEWSLETTER**

The AAG Council has authorized the acceptance of advertisements for publication in the AAG Newsletter. All ads must meet AAG ethical standards and relate to the discipline or profession of geography. For more information on advertising in the Newsletter, please visit www.aag.org/ads.
Books Received


**New Appointments**

American University, Assistant Professor of International Development, Daniel E. Esser. PhD 2008, London School of Economics and Political Science.

Central Michigan University, Assistant Professor, Xiaoguang Wang. ABD, University of Michigan.

Florida International University, Assistant Professor, Ulrich Olsder. PhD 2001, University of Glasgow.

Kent State University, Assistant Professor, Debachana Ghosh. PhD (expected 2009), University of Minnesota.

Michigan State University, Assistant Professor, Lifeng Luo. PhD 2003, Rutgers.

Michigan State University, Assistant Professor, Nathan Moore. PhD 2004, Duke University.

Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, Assistant Professor, Elizabeth M. Walton. PhD 2009, University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

University of Wisconsin – Fox Valley, Assistant Professor, Amy R. Lilenfeld. PhD 2003, Indiana University.

University of Alabama, Assistant Professor, Justin Hart. PhD 2007, University of Tennessee.

**Key:** New institution, position, name. Degree, year degree granted, granting institution.

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**AAG ADVANCING GEOGRAPHY FUND**

I (we) pledge to contribute__________________ to the Association of American Geographers as part of the Advancing Geography Campaign.

Giving levels include:

- $500 to $999 Scholars Circle
- $1,000 to $4,999 Millennium Circle
- $5,000 to $9,999 Century Circle
- $10,000 to $24,999 Explorers Circle
- $25,000 and above Leadership Circle

This gift will be made as follows:

Total amount enclosed: $ _______________________

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If you intend to fulfill your pledge through a gift other than cash, check, or marketable securities, please check:

- credit card
- bequest
- other

Credit Card:  
- Visa
- MasterCard

Account Number _______________________________

Name on Card _______________________________

Expiration Date ______________________________

Signature ____________________________________

- My (our) gift will be matched by my employer

I would like my gift to go toward:

- Endowment for Geography’s Future
- Developing Regions Membership Fund
- AAG Student Travel Fund
- Mel Marcus Fund for Physical Geography
- AAG International Education Fund
- Marble Fund for Geographic Science
- AAG Public Policy Initiatives
- Enhancing Diversity Fund
- Area of Greatest Need
- Other ______________________________________

Name ______________________________________

Affiliation ______________________________________

Address ______________________________________

City __________________________ State __________ Zip ___________

Telephone __________________________ Fax __________________________

Email ______________________________________

Please send this pledge form to:

AAG Advancing Geography Fund
1710 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20009

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**MOVING? HAVE YOU RECENTLY MOVED?**

To update your address or contact info, visit the AAG website (www.aag.org) or fax this entire page to 202-234-2744 or mail to the AAG Office.

Name________________________________________

Affiliation ____________________________________

Address ______________________________________

______________________________________________

- Home  - Office

City __________________________ State __________ Zip ___________

Telephone __________________________ Fax __________________________

Email ______________________________________

Date ______________________________________

Please send this pledge form to:

AAG Advancing Geography Fund
1710 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20009
**UNITED STATES**

**ALABAMA, JACKSONVILLE.**

The Department of Physical and Earth Sciences at Jacksonville State University invites applications for a tenure track position teaching Human Geography at the rank of Assistant Professor. The position is available beginning January 2010. Teaching responsibilities will include introductory sections of World Regional and Human Geography and upper level courses in the candidate’s area of specialization. The ability to teach introductory GIS will be an advantage. The successful candidate will build and maintain an active research program, secure external funding, publish findings in the peer-reviewed literature and incorporate current research findings into the instructional program.

PhD in Geography required, however, advanced ABD candidates will receive consideration. Postdoctoral experience or experience in a faculty capacity at a university preferred. Experience working with diverse groups preferred.

Apply for this position online at http://jobs.jsu.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=50495 and attach a cover letter, condensed curriculum vitae and statement of teaching and research philosophy. Unofficial transcripts and other supporting documents may also be attached optionally.

Jacksonville State University is an EO/AA Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

MAY 09-064

**CALIFORNIA, REDLANDS.**

ArcMap Technical Writers. Use your GIS knowledge and strong communication skills to contribute to our customers’ success. Work with product engineers to edit content and documentation; explain common workflows for ArcMap and the cartographic tools; and write documentation that conveys best practices, methods, and theory of GIS. Successful candidates will possess a bachelor’s or master’s in GIS, English, journalism, or related field, demonstrated knowledge of GIS, a minimum of five years of technical writing experience, and the proven ability to learn GIS methods and best practices. Learn more about this position and apply online at www.esri.com/careers/writers.

ESRI is an equal opportunity employer (EOE) supporting diversity in the workforce.

MAY 09-076-1

**LOUISIANA, RUSTON.**

Louisiana Tech University. The Department of Social Sciences invites applications for a tenure-track position in Geographic Information Science at the Assistant Professor level, beginning September 2009. A PhD in Geography or Geographic Information Science, or related disciplines of Social Sciences and/or Resource Management, with a specialization in GIS, is required by this date. Successful classroom teaching experience is a plus, as is evidence of research/scholarship ability.

The successful candidate will become part of a small, collegial department, and will be expected to contribute to both an interdisciplinary GIS program and the related Geography program. The Geographic Information Science program at Louisiana Tech University is an interdisciplinary and interdepartmental degree program shared between the Department of Social Sciences and the School of Forestry. Two concentrations are offered, one in social sciences and one in natural resources. The successful candidate will be expected to teach a broad range of GIS courses (including those in her/his areas of specialization and interest). The successful candidate will have appropriate skills in ArcGIS, spatial statistical methods, database management, and a background in cartography. A strong commitment to teaching at the undergraduate level is required, as are a commitment to scholarship/research activity and good interpersonal and collegial skills.

Apply. Please send letter of application, curriculum vitae, unofficial transcripts, and three current letters of recommendation to: Dr. Jason Pigg, Head, Department of Social Sciences, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA 71272.

Review of applicants will begin May 18 and continue until the position is filled. Louisiana Tech University is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. Louisiana Tech University is a member of the University of Louisiana system.

JUN 09-073-1

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK.**

Trace Foundation is a non-profit organization headquartered in New York City. The Foundation
funds and implements initiatives aimed to find sustainable ways to meet the challenges of Tibetan communities of Western China while respecting traditional ways of life.

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Director of the Research Office will be responsible for the overall management of the Research Office. Trace Foundation’s Research Office aims to contribute to the advancement of knowledge regarding Tibetan communities in China, and the complexities of the ongoing modernization process. It assists with facilitating the use of applied research in development and cultural maintenance work. The Research Office supports the overall mission of the Foundation and the continued refinement of its strategies by developing a better understanding of development, economic, social, cultural, and other relevant theories and practices applicable to the Tibetan areas of China. The Office creates original research resources for the Foundation as well as for public access. It supports debate and theoretical discussion inside and outside the Foundation with the purpose of identifying sustainable and culturally relevant developments models.

In this role, the Director of the Research Office will direct and supervise the day-to-day operations of the Research Office. This includes: (Overall) 1. Identify priorities and coordinate the development of relevant research work and theoretical inquiries; 2. Assist with the application of relevant research in Trace Foundation’s development and cultural maintenance work; 3. Develop annual and triennial work-plan and relevant budgets for the Research Office; 4. Manage and supervise Research Office staff and interns; Work with program coordinators and other project staff on the professional development of Foundation staff; Improve the information sharing system for both internal and external usage; Liaise and cooperate with other offices as required. (Projects) 1. Plan, organize and facilitate public events such as roundtable discussions, seminars and conferences; 2. Develop and supervise both internal and public publications such as the Foundation Research Series, ad hoc reports, event proceedings, research findings, and annual analysis reports; 3. Develop and implement Trace Foundation’s Research Fellowship Program; 4. Coordinate the development of the research database; 5. Oversee the acquisition and provision of timely information and analysis on global as well as local policies, initiatives, projects, theories and practices relevant to the different sectors where the Foundation works; 6. Coordinate the provision of background information to project staff; 7. Coordinate the development of translation and transliteration standards. (Other) 1. Participate in key conferences and report to staff on findings; 2. Participate in Foundation-wide initiatives as appropriate; and other job-related duties as assigned.

Successful candidates will have the following qualifications: A PhD or equivalent background in anthropology, education, development, Asian studies, economics, history, international affairs, geography, or other relevant fields. Be a dedicated scholar with demonstrated excellence in scholarship and research with specific regional focus on Western China and/or Himalayan regions. A minimum of 5 years relevant experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience. A commitment to an understanding of Tibetan culture. Have experience in designing, directing, and conducting research and/or development projects in Western China and/or Himalayan regions. Be fluent in written and spoken English. Have good knowledge of Tibetan and/or Chinese language (at least one required). Have excellent computer and internet resource skills. Personal characteristics — “soft skills” — Ability to direct and coordinate research teams; Have excellent communication and organizational skills. Accuracy and attention to detail; Proactive role in problem solving; Ability to work independently on assigned tasks as well as to accept direction on given assignments; be a team player. Salary: Based on experience.

**Apply** Send cover letter including salary history, résumé and a comprehensive list of all publications to: Susannah Mondoa, Director, HR & Administration, Trace Foundation, 132 Perry Street, Suite 2B, New York, NY 10014; Or email to trace@trace.org. Attn: Director of the Research Office.

**MAY 09-065**

**WISCONSIN, LA CROSSE.**

The Department of Geography/Earth Science at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in human/cultural/environmental geography beginning Fall 2009 or January 2010. PhD in Geography at time of appointment (will consider late stage ABD). The preferred candidate will have expertise in some combinations of: world cultures, contemporary environmental issues, sustainability, human/land interactions, environmental epidemiology, and impacts of global changes on humans. The ideal candidate will have research interest in human-environment interactions and systems. Primary teaching responsibilities include introductory world regional course and advanced level courses in his/her area of specializations. The appointee is expected to further advance existing cultural and environmental curricula in the Department, demonstrate a commitment to excellence in undergraduate teaching, develop an active research program seeking external grants, participate in undergraduate research, and provide service to the University, community, and profession.

**Apply** Applications must be submitted online to: https://employment.uwlax.edu/applicantsjsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1240494358073. Your application should include a letter of application, vita, a philosophy of teaching statement, statement of research agenda, contact information for three references, and graduate transcript(s). For questions, please contact Dr. Gregory Chu, Chair, Department of Geography and Earth Science, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Voice: 608-785-8333, Fax: 608-785-8332, E-mail: chu.greg@uwlax.edu. (www.uwlax.edu/geography). Review of complete application materials will begin on August 1, 2009, and will continue until position is filled.

UW-La Crosse is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Women, persons of color, and individuals with a disability are encouraged to apply. Please contact the Search and Screen Committee if you have a special need/accommodation to aid your participation in our hiring process.

Employment will require a criminal background check. A pending criminal charge or conviction will not necessarily disqualify an applicant. In compliance with the Wisconsin Fair Employment Act, UW-La Crosse does not discriminate on the basis of arrest or conviction record.

**JUN 09-078**

**INTERNATIONAL.**

**CANADA, MONTREAL.**

Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Sciences. As part of its research and teaching in environment and sustainable development, the Department of Geography at the Université de Montréal invites applications for a tenure-track position as Assistant or Associate Professor of Human Geography, effective December 1, 2009, (subject to budget approval). The Department is particularly interested in candidates with solid expertise in water governance and management.

The candidate is expected to teach all three levels of the curriculum, supervise graduate students, develop an original world-class research program, and attract funding from external sources. For more information about the Department of Geography, please see our website at: www.geog.umontreal.ca.

Interested parties should send an application package by June 30, 2009, including a curriculum vitae, a description of teaching interests, a research proposal (maximum 3 pages) and reprints of their three most significant research contributions. Three letters of reference should also be sent separately.

**Apply** the complete package must be sent to the following address: M. François Courchesne, directeur, Ré. Poste de professeur en géographie humaine, Département de géographie, Université de Montréal, C. P. 6128, succursale Centre-ville, Montréal (Québec) H3C 3J7.

**JUN 09-076-1**
2009
JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER
25-26. Great Plains/Rocky Mountain AAG Regional Meeting. Logan, UT. Contact: Doug Ramsey (doug.ramsey@usu.edu).

OCTOBER
2-3. Middle Atlantic AAG Regional Meeting. Germantown, MD. Contact: Tanya Allison (tanya.allison@montgomerycollege.edu).

NOVEMBER
6-7. Middle States AAG Regional Meeting. New Paltz, NY. Contact: Larry McGlinn (mcglinnl@newpaltz.edu).
6-7. Nestval AAG Regional Meeting. Salem, MA. Contact: Steven Young (syoung@salemstate.edu).
24-26. Southeast AAG Regional Meeting. Knoxville, TN. Contact: Ron Kalafsky (kalafsky@utk.edu).

2010
APRIL

2011
APRIL

National Conference on Geographic Education

The 2009 NCGE will take place in San Juan, Puerto Rico on September 23-27. The conference theme is “Crossroads of Cultures.” Conference field trips will explore the rich and varied geography, history and culture of Puerto Rico. Participants must register for these optional field trips online. Please make reservations by August 31, 2009 to receive the discounted rate at the conference hotel. Program, registration, field trip and other information is available at www.ncge.org.

www.aag.org
Call for Nominations: 
Vice President and National Councillor

The AAG Nominating Committee for the 2010 election is seeking nominations for AAG Vice President (one to be elected) and for National Councillor (two vacancies). Those elected will take office on July 1, 2010. Members should submit the names and addresses of each nominee and their reasons for supporting each nomination to any member of the committee no later than August 31, 2009. As part of your nomination statement, please confirm that your nominee is willing to be considered by the nominating committee for the position for which you are nominating her or him.

Committee members are: 1) John Paul Jones III, University of Arizona, Department of Geography and Regional Development, 409 Harvill Building, Box #2, Tucson, AZ 85721 (jpjones@email.arizona.edu); 2) Susan Roberts, University of Kentucky, Department of Geography, 1471 Patterson Office Tower, Lexington, KY 40506 (sueroberts@uky.edu); and 3) Julie Winkler (Chair), Michigan State University, Department of Geography, 238 Geography Building, East Lansing, MI 48824 (winkler@msu.edu).

Lists of past and current AAG officers may be found in the Handbook section of the current issue of the AAG’s Guide to Geography Programs in the Americas.

2010 AAG Annual Meeting
April 14-18, Washington D.C.

The AAG invites you to begin making plans to attend the 2010 AAG Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., home of the Association of American Geographers and the heart of the U.S. Federal Government. In addition to a large schedule of diverse scholarly presentations, the 2010 meeting will include keynote speakers and panelists from government agencies as well as many non-profit and non-governmental organizations. The meeting will also offer opportunities for many interesting and unique field trips and excursions. Direct flights to the Washington D.C. area and connections to more than 30 international destinations are available through three local airports (Reagan, Dulles, and Baltimore).